#### **Update on Debt Collection**

Matt Lorelli, Team Lead, Agency Liaison & Reporting Division Richard Burnham, Branch Manager, Cross-Servicing Division Alyssa Riedl, Branch Manager, Treasury Offset Division

## **Overview**

- Agency Liaison Division
  - Overview of Debt Collection
  - TROR
- Cross Servicing
  - Collection Process and Up-to-Date Reports
- Treasury Offset Division
  - Debt Collections through TOP

# Overview of Debt Collection in FY04

- In FYO4, the Federal Government Collected \$121.9 billion.
- Total Collections on Receivables in FY 2004 Increased by \$2.3 billion Over FY 2003 Collections.
- Since the Enactment of DCIA in April 1996, \$21.2 billion has been Collected to Pay Delinquent Debts through the TOP and Cross-Servicing Program.
- Total Collections through TOP and Cross-Servicing were \$3.0 billion in FY 2004. Annual Collections through These Programs have Averaged Over \$3.0 billion during the Last Four Years.

# Overview of Debt Collection in FY04 (Continue)

- Administrative Offset Collections were \$109 million, a 23.9 Percent Increase Over the \$88 million Collected in FY 2003.
- PCAs under Contract with the Education, Health and Human Services and Treasury had Referrals of \$18.3 billion in Delinquent Federal Debt (Up 27 Percent from the \$14.4 billion in Referrals in FY 2003).
- PCAs Collected \$610 million in FY 2004 (Up 12 Percent from the \$547 million Collected in FY 2003).

# Referral Performance & Trends

- The Referral Rate of Eligible Federal Debt Submitted to Cross-Servicing has Continually Increased since FY01 from 78% to 97.4% in FY04.
- Total Collections by Treasury's FMS on Delinquent Debts through TOP and Cross-Servicing were \$3 billion in FY2004.

### What is the Problem?

- Delinquent Non-Tax Debt Continues to Increase...
  - ✓ 2003: \$70.1 billion
  - ✓ 2004: \$71.0 billion

# Treasury Report On Receivables & Debt Collection Activities (TROR)

#### What is This TROR?

- A Management Report, Not an Accounting Report.
- Treasury's Only Comprehensive Means for Periodically Collecting Data on the Status and Condition of Federal Non-Tax Debt.
- Helps *Agencies* Manage Their Compliance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act (DCIA).

## What is This TROR? (Continue)

- Helps Treasury and Others Monitor and Report on Agencies' Performance.
- Helps *Treasury K*now the Extent of the Debt Collection Problem and What Agencies Need to Do to Fix Their Problems.
- Information Shared with Congress, OMB, and GAO, for Agency Performance Monitoring. Disseminated to CFOs, Other Federal and State Officials.

# **Targeted Improvements**

# Improved Debt Management by FPAs in Areas such as:

- ✓ Aging of Debt (TROR, Part 1, Section B);
- ✓ Referrals of Eligible Debt to Treasury;
- ✓Write Offs and Close Outs (OMB's A-129);
- ✓TROR, Part 2, Section D, Debt Disposition (Closed Out, 1099-C, etc.);
- ✓ Overall Timeliness and Accuracy of the TROR!

## **Priorities & Strategies for FY05/06**

## Strategies:

- Agencies' Continued Compliance with the DCIA.
- Agencies' Continued Timely and Correct Filing of the TROR.
- We are Urging Agencies to Refer All Debts at the 180—day Point.
- Encouraging the Use of the Administrative Wage Garnishment (AWG) Tool!

#### **TROR New information!**

- New TROR Changes!
  - ✓ New Name!
  - ✓ Sections Revised!
- TROR Revised Workshops: Standard and Agency-Specific.
- Revised On-Line Instructional Workbook.
- Quarterly Reporting by All Agencies.
- Combined Verification/Certification
- New Managing Federal Receivables!

Treasury's Financial Management Service has completed its revision of "Managing Federal Receivables" (MFR), and it is now available on our website at:

http://www.fms.treas.gov/debt/Guidance\_MFR.html

## Why Change the TROR?

- To Make the Report and Instructions
   Easier for Agencies to Prepare.
- To Enable Treasury to Capture Data of Greater Relevance.
- To Resolve Problems with the 1998-99 Version of the Report.

## TROR Pilot Group

#### Revision Developed by TROR Pilot Group Representatives from Many Agencies:

- Agriculture
- Commerce
- Defense
- Education
- General Services Administration
- Interior
- Housing and Urban Development
- Railroad Retirement Board
- Social Security Administration
- Transportation
- Veterans Affairs

# **Expectations from the TROR Pilot Group:**

- Clarification/Simplification of Part II, Section B & Part II, Section D, Debt Disposition.
- Bring Financial Statements and TROR Balances Closer. (Net vs. Gross)
- Make Sure that Debt Referral Numbers Represent Actual Status in Part II, Section B.
- Streamline Report.
- Learn about Changes in order to Teach Others in Agency.

#### **Revised TROR Implementation Timeline**

Implement Revised Form-July 2006 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter-FY 2006 Reporting.

# **Agency Liaison Team**

- Mission:
  - To Assist Federal Agencies with Their Debt Collection & Management to Meet the Requirements of the DCIA.
- Focus on Major Agencies:
  - HHS, HUD, Education, Agriculture, DoD.

# How DMS Liaisons Work with the Federal Agencies?

- Schedule Tailored DCIA/TROR Sessions.
- Regular Interaction/Meetings/Conference Calls.
  - ✓ Meetings as Needed with the Appropriate Agency Representatives. (i.e. Cross-Servicing, TOP, etc.)
- Provide Program Information Upon Request.
- Involved w/Ongoing Information Exchange to Keep Agencies Informed about Key Initiatives and Reporting Issues.

# Agency Training

- DMS/ALRD Offers TROR Workshops Specifically Tailored to Meet Your Agency Needs.
- Future DC101/TROR Forums/Workshops:

September 20 – 22, 2005 – Chicago, IL (DC101 & TROR!)

Register On-Line Early! <a href="http://fms.treas.gov/debt/training.html">http://fms.treas.gov/debt/training.html</a>

# Agency Liaison and Reporting Division **Points of Contact**

Gina Myers, Division Director Agency Liaison and Reporting Division (202)874-6660

Shirley Williams-Jefferson, Team Lead Conferences & Agency Education Team (202)874-7399

Matthew Lorelli, Team Lead Agency Liaison Team (202)874-8626

Thomas Kobielus, Team Lead Government-Wide Reporting & Relations Team (202)874-7359

# Cross-Servicing

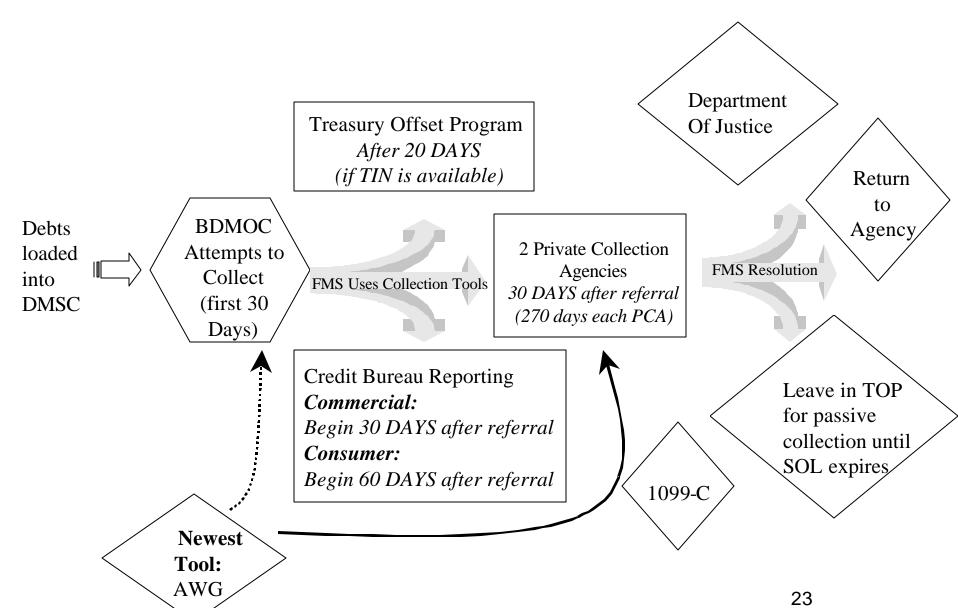
**Rick Burnham**, Branch Manager Private Collection Branch Cross-Servicing Division

# **Cross-Servicing**

#### GOALS:

- ✓ Collect Debt;
- ✓ Resolve Debt;
- ✓ Remove Debt from the Government's Receivables;
- ✓ Centralize Government Debt Collection.

#### Collection Process Overview



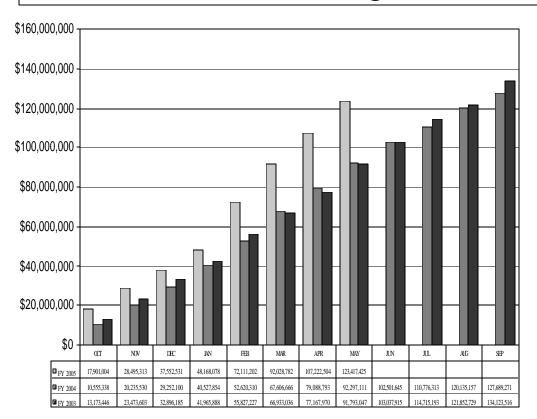
## Manual Debt Referrals

Number of Manual Referrals are Decreasing!

#### **CROSS-SERVICING COLLECTIONS**

As of May 31, 2005

## Comparison of Cumulative Cross-Servicing Collections for FY 2003 Through FY 2005



Through May of FY 2005, Cross-Servicing Collections have averaged over \$15 million per month, an increase of \$4.7 million over the monthly average collected in FY 2004.

#### COLLECTIONS SINCE INCEPTION

\$ 313.1 MILLION FOR PCAs

\$ 180.5 MILLION FOR DMSC \$ 109.7 MILLION FOR TOP

\$ 603.3 MILLION TOTAL

ACTIVE PAYMENT		
AGREEMENTS		
DMSC	3,930	\$27,103,450
<b>PMAC</b>	4,220	\$36,657,497
TOTAL	8,150	\$63,760,947

# Private Collection Agencies (PCAs)

Debts are Sent to PCAs 30 Days after Referral to FMS. PCAs are Expected to Perform Nationwide Debt Collection, Including:

- Consumer and Commercial Debt;
- Different Types of Debts (Fines, Fees, Overpayments, Medical);
- Varied Ages;
- Varied Values (\$100 to millions).

#### **PCA Contract Goals**

- Collect Debt:
- Resolve Debt;
- Create Competitive
  - Environment;
- Evaluate Performance.

## **Basic Contract Requirements**

#### Collection Process:

- Pre-Approved Collection Letters;
- Perform Skip-Tracing;
- Receive and Process Debtor Disputes;
- Payment Agreements;
- Administrative Wage Garnishment;
- Administrative Resolution (Death, Bankruptcy, or Disability with Inability to Pay; Entity out of Business in FedDebt).

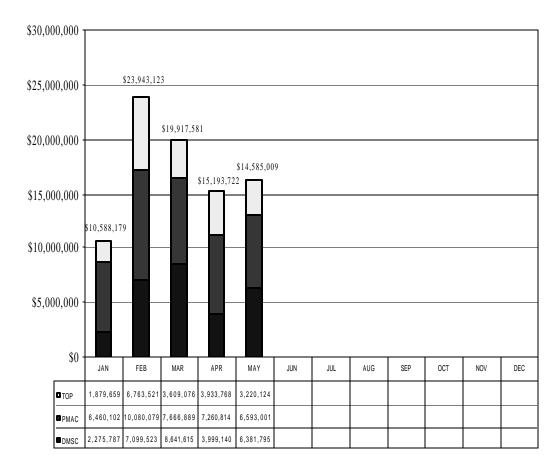
#### **CROSS-SERVICING COLLECTIONS**

CY 2005 Collections of DMSC, PCA and TOP as of May 31, 2005

Through May of CY 2005, Cross-Servicing Collections totaled nearly \$86 million, an increase of more than \$22 million over the total collected during the same period in CY 2004.

Calendar Year to Date Collections		
DMSC =	\$28,397,860	
PMAC =	\$38,060,886	
TOP =	\$19,406,149	
TOTAL =	\$85,864,894	

Fiscal Year to Date Collections		
DMSC =	\$42,626,635	
PMAC =	\$58,840,021	
TOP =	\$21,950,769	
TOTAL =	\$123,417,425	



# Administrative Wage Garnishment (AWG)

- As Authorized by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, AWG Allows Federal Agencies to Garnish up to 15% of the Disposable Pay of Debtors who do not Work for the Federal Government, Without a Court Order.
- Agencies Need to Publish Regulations and Establish Hearing Procedures to Participate.
- Agency May Choose to Adopt Treasury Regulations.
- Legislation has Passed Allowing FMS Access to the National Directory of New Hires.

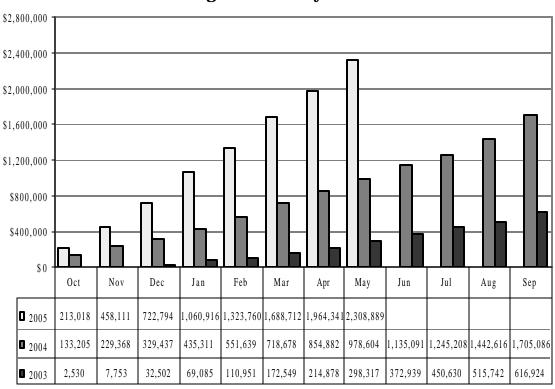
# AWG - Collections 15 Agencies Currently Authorize AWG

- James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation
- Railroad Retirement Board
- Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Securities & Exchange Commission
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Department of Education
- Dept. of Defense (Defense Finance & Accounting Service)
- Department of Energy
- Dept. of the Treasury (FMS & Bureau of the Public Debt)
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- General Services Administration
- Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- Social Security Administration
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Small Business Administration

## CROSS-SERVICING COLLECTIONS ADMINISTRATIVE WAGE GARNISHMENT

As of May 31, 2005

#### Comparison of Cumulative Collections for FY 2003 Through FY 2005 by Month

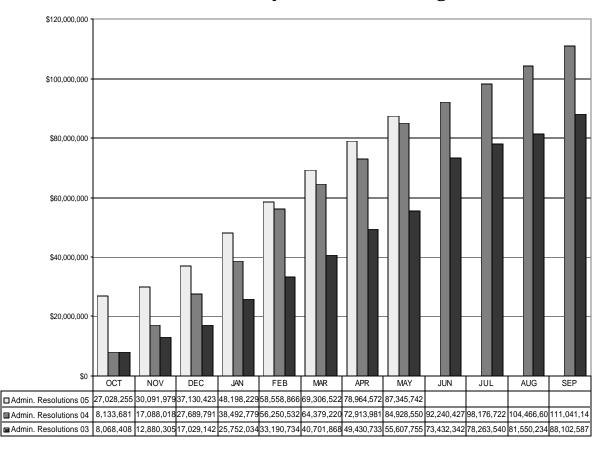


For the first time since the program's inception in 2001, AWG collections have surpassed \$2 million in a single fiscal year. Collections through AWG continue to increase as additional federal agencies enable DMS to utilize this powerful collection tool.

## PRIVATE COLLECTION AGENCY (PCA) COLLECTIONS ADMINISTRATIVE DEBT RESOLUTION

As of May 31, 2005

#### Comparison of Cumulative Debt Resolved Administratively for FY 2003 Through FY 2005



Through May of FY 2005, the value of debt resolved administratively by the PCAs totaled over \$87 million, an increase of over \$2 million compared to the same period in FY 2004.

#### New Approach-Enterprise Architecture Study

- Fully Integrate All Debt Management Systems.
- Cross-Servicing Module of FedDebt will be Implemented on October 1; However Agencies will not have On-Line Access until 60 Days after that Date.
- File Formats As Soon As Possible.

#### **Cross-Servicing Division Contacts**

#### **Points of Contact**

Ellen Green, Division Director Cross-Servicing Division (202)874-8700

Michael Moran, Branch Manager Cross-Servicing Relations Branch (202)874-1204

Rick Burnham, Branch Manager Private Collection Branch (202)874-5879

Benton Barger, Branch Manager Cross-Servicing Testing Branch (202)874-3429

# Treasury Offset Program

**Alyssa Riedl**, Branch Manager Treasury Offset Program Operations Branch Treasury Offset Division

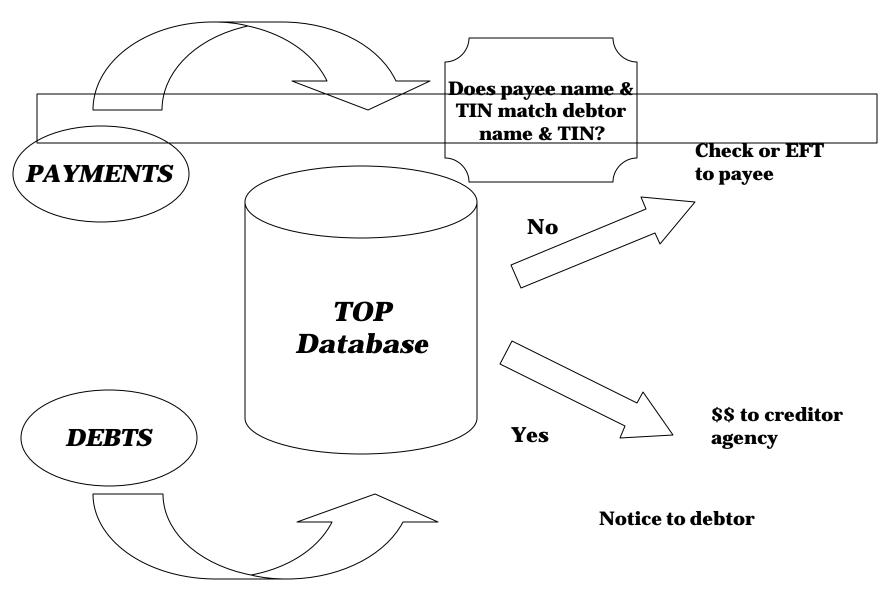
### What is Offset?

- Withholding Funds Payable by the United States to a Person to Satisfy a Debt.
- TOP is a System that Compares Payments with Debts. When a Match Occurs the Payment is Offset to Collect the Debt.

### **Administrative Offset**

- Requires Agencies to Notify Treasury of All Debts Over 180 Days Delinquent for Purposes of Offset.
- Requires Disbursing Officials to Offset Payments.

### **TOP Process**



### As of May 31, 2005 TOP Database Contains:

- \$35.1 billion in Federal Non-Tax Debts.
- \$81.2 billion in Child Support Debts.
- \$113.5 billion in Federal Tax Debts.
- \$5.4 billion in State Income Tax Debts.
- Total \$235.2 billion!

### **CY Collections Through TOP** As of July 13, 2005 - \$2.84 billion

 Administrative Offsets \$71.7 million

 Tax Refund Offset **Child Support** 

\$1.4 billion

 Tax Refund Offset Federal Non-Tax Debt \$945.9 million

 Tax Refund Offset State Income Tax Debt \$209.4 million

• Tax Levy

\$108.6 million



### **Purpose:**

- To Assist Agencies in Collecting Delinquent, Non-Tax Debt by Providing Information to Agencies and Lenders on Whether Individuals and Businesses Applying for Federal Loans, Loan Insurance, and Loan Guarantees have a Debt with the Federal Government (U.S.C. § 3720B and 31 C.F.R. §285.13).
- To Provide an Online Resource on Delinquent Debtors for Federal Agencies for Purposes of Carrying Out the Law.

### **Debt Check – The Future**

- Working with USDA for Single Sign-On in Accordance with the Federal Government's Pursuit of Unified Authentication Systems.
- Working with HUD to Develop a Portal Between CAIVRS and Debt Check.

### **Debt Check**

As of July 20, 2005, 22,022 Inquiries were Run on the Debt Check Database. Of Those Inquiries, There were 113 Full Matches and 89 Partial Matches.

### **Centralized Salary Offset**

# Participating Salary Paying Agencies:

- **✓** Interior
- ✓ National Finance Center
- **✓ DoD-DFAS**
- ✓ U.S. Postal Service

## **Payroll Consolidation Initiative**

- Currently 3 of the 4 Payroll Agencies are Participating in Centralized Salary Offset (CSO).
- The General Services Administration (One of the Four Payroll Agencies) is Slated to Participate as a SPA by the End of Calendar Year 2005.

## **Miscellaneous Payments**

- Payments for Various Federal Program Expenditures Such As Loans, Grants, Medical, Emergency, and Other Administrative Obligations.
- Effective Upon Publications of the New TFM Bulletin, Agencies will Fill in the TOP Eligibility Code:
  - Blank or Y = Offset
  - N = Do Not Offset
- Agencies Should Place an "N" in the Field, (If the Payment Is Legally Ineligible for Offset or Is Not Eligible to be 100% Offset).

### **Task Force**

- The Cross Agency Federal Contractor Tax Compliance Task Force with Senior Management from FMS, DOD, IRS, DOJ, OMB, and GSA was Established to Address the Recommendations of the GAO Audit.
- In 2004, the Task Force Took Several Actions and Made Recommendations to Improve the Collection of Tax Debt Owed by DoD Contractors.
- In 2005, the Task Force Will Address the New Recommendations Made by GAO to Improve the Collection of Tax Debt Owned by Civilian Agency Contractors.

## **Legislative Proposals**

• Unemployment Trust Fund to Participate in TOP.

• Removal of 10 Year Statute of Limitations on Offsets.

### **Treasury Offset Division**

#### **Points of Contact**

Dean Balamaci, Division Director Treasury Offset Division (202)874-0540

Judy Diaz, Branch Manager Treasury Offset Program Support Branch (202)874-7058

Rosemary McCambridge, Branch Manager Treasury Offset Program Relations Branch (202)874-6727

Alyssa Riedl, Branch Manager Treasury Offset Program Operations Branch (202)874-6859

# Questions?